

***EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT***

1. Claims 1-5, 7-10, 18, and 22 are allowed.
2. Claims 6, 11-17, 19-21 are canceled.
3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
4. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William J. Kramer on 3/01/08.
5. The application has been amended as follow:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of provisioning a network device with network settings, comprising:
  - detecting an installation of a portable computer-readable media device;
  - prompting a user for a network name;
  - determining a network settings configuration for allowing the network device to join a network corresponding to the network name, wherein the network settings configuration includes at least the network name and a network encryption key;
  - generating an Extensible Markup Language (XML) settings file including the network settings configuration;
  - writing the XML settings file, an autorun file, and a network setup application to the portable computer-readable media device, [[and]]

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reading, from the portable computer-readable media device after a re-installation of the portable computer-readable media device, an XML device configuration file including an applied configuration of the network device, and

wherein the portable computer-readable media device is a universal serial bus (USB) flash drive.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network encryption key is automatically generated.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network settings further include wireless network settings.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the network settings configuration includes collecting data from a user.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the network settings configuration includes using an application program interface (API) of an operating system to determine the network settings.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the network settings configuration is further for allowing the network device to join a peer-to-peer network.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the network settings configuration is further for allowing the network device to join a domain-based network
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network settings have a time to live, and are invalid after the time to live has expired.
10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

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analyzing the XML device configuration file to determine if a fault occurred during a provisioning of the network device with the applied configuration.

11-17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A method of configuring an electronic device for operation in a network, comprising:

detecting an installation of a portable computer-readable media device;

detecting an autorun file on the portable computer-readable media device;

based on the step of detecting the autorun file, automatically uploading a configuration from the portable computer-readable media device, wherein the configuration includes network settings and wherein the configuration is embodied in an XML settings file,

applying the configuration automatically to the electronic device;

joining the electronic device to the network;

generating a XML device configuration file, the XML device configuration file indicating the applied configuration of the electronic device and any faults occurring during the step of applying the configuration automatically to the electronic device; [[and]]

writing the report XML file to the portable computer-readable media device; and

wherein the portable computer readable media device is a USB flash drive.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein automatically uploading the configuration from the portable computer-readable device comprises automatically uploading one from a plurality of configurations corresponding to a plurality of networks from the portable computer-readable device.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liangche A. Wang whose telephone number is (571)272-3992. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Liangche A. Wang/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2453